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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ream et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/044,113  
Conf. No.: 9176  
Filed: January 9, 2002  
Title: OVER-COATED PRODUCT INCLUDING TABLETED CENTER AND  
MEDICAMENT  
Art Unit: 1615  
Examiner: S. Howard  
Docket No.: 112703-201

TECH CENTER 600/2900

JAN 30 2003

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on January 8, 2003. The Office Action is a restriction requirement. Specifically, Applicants are to elect between three groups of invention: Group I (Claims 1-7, 21-23, and 32-35); Group II (Claims 8-16); and Group III (Claims 24-31). Applicants elect, without traverse, Group II (Claims 8-16). However, Applicants note that Group II should include, in addition to Claims 8-16, Claims 17-20 which are also product claims and which claims depend from Claim 16, a claim that has been identified to be in Group II. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that Claims 8-20 be considered on the merits.

Applicants note that they reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

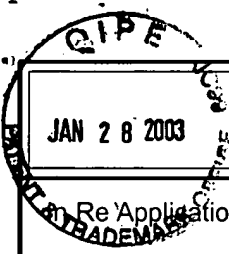
Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

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1615



**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
**(General - Patent Pending)**

Docket No.  
112703-201

Re Application Of: Ream et al.

Serial No.  
10/044,113

Filing Date  
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Group Art Unit  
1615

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**OVER-COATED PRODUCT INCLUDING TABLETED CENTER AND MEDICAMENT**

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TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

**Response to Restriction Requirement (1 page)**  
**Return Receipt Postcard**

in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☐ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **02-1818** as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☒ Credit any overpayment.
  - ☒ Charge any additional fee required.

Dated: **January 21, 2003**

*Signature*

**Robert M. Barrett (30,142)**  
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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on <u>1/21/2003</u> with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 39 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20234.	
<i>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</i>	
<b>Robert Buccieri</b>	
<i>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</i>	

CC: